

**To:** Harris-Bishop, Rusty[Harris-Bishop.Rusty@epa.gov]  
**From:** Yogi, David  
**Sent:** Thur 8/20/2015 5:36:54 AM  
**Subject:** Re: RELEASE: EPA Data Shows Water Quality in San Juan River in Navajo Nation Back to Pre-Event Levels

Yea

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 19, 2015, at 11:36 PM, "Harris-Bishop, Rusty" <[Harris-Bishop.Rusty@epa.gov](mailto:Harris-Bishop.Rusty@epa.gov)> wrote:

Is the data up, too?

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 19, 2015, at 11:19 PM, Yogi, David <[Yogi.David@epa.gov](mailto:Yogi.David@epa.gov)> wrote:

Thx, Kelly. Just passed along to \$fund team

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 19, 2015, at 11:17 PM, "Zito, Kelly" <[ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV](mailto:ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV)> wrote:

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Higuchi, Dean" <[Higuchi.Dean@epa.gov](mailto:Higuchi.Dean@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** August 19, 2015 at 10:09:52 PM PDT  
**To:** "Jenkins, Laura Flynn" <[Jenkins.Laura@epa.gov](mailto:Jenkins.Laura@epa.gov)>, "Gray, David" <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** "Assunto, Carmen" <[Assunto.Carmen@epa.gov](mailto:Assunto.Carmen@epa.gov)>, "Zito, Kelly" <[ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV](mailto:ZITO.KELLY@EPA.GOV)>, "Keener, Bill" <[Keener.Bill@epa.gov](mailto:Keener.Bill@epa.gov)>, "Maier, Brent" <[Maier.Brent@epa.gov](mailto:Maier.Brent@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: RELEASE: EPA Data Shows Water Quality in San Juan River in Navajo Nation Back to Pre-Event Levels

All done. Sent to R9 Congressional and to R9 Press via VOCUS

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**From:** Jenkins, Laura Flynn  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 19, 2015 6:53 PM  
**To:** Gray, David  
**Cc:** Assunto, Carmen; Higuchi, Dean  
**Subject:** Re: RELEASE: EPA Data Shows Water Quality in San Juan River in Navajo Nation Back to Pre-Event Levels

All of our media contacts have been incorporated into the HQ list in Vocus, so Region 8 is covered.

Laura Jenkins

Budget/Project Officer

Water Security Division

& USEPA Region 8

1595 Wynkoop St.

8P-W-DW

Denver, CO 80208

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Cell Phone: 202-360-8453

On Aug 19, 2015, at 10:49 PM, Gray, David <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)> wrote:

Please distribute

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "U.S. EPA Media Relations" <[noreply-subscriptions@epa.gov](mailto:noreply-subscriptions@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** August 19, 2015 at 10:34:24 PM MDT  
**To:** <[gray.david@epa.gov](mailto:gray.david@epa.gov)>

**Subject: RELEASE: EPA Data Shows Water Quality in San Juan River in Navajo Nation Back to Pre-Event Levels**

**CONTACT:**

[press@epa.gov](mailto:press@epa.gov)  
(970) 812-3351

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 19, 2015

**EPA Data Shows Water Quality in San Juan River in the Navajo Nation Back to Pre-Event Levels**

**DURANGO, CO** – Based on U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) surface water data collected following the August 5, 2015 Gold King Mine release, San Juan River water quality in Navajo Nation has returned to pre-event conditions. This determination is based on a review of water quality data collected from August 7-15, 2015 at EPA's sampling point near Hogback, N.M.

Water quality has now returned to levels measured before the release entered the Navajo Nation. Water and sediments from the mine were last observed at Nenahnezad, N.M., east of Hogback, N.M., on August 8, 2015.

EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy and Navajo Nation President Russell Begaye had a productive phone conversation on August 19 to review water quality data. Based on that conversation the President indicated that the Navajo Nation may re-open the San Juan River for irrigation purposes as soon as this weekend. It was also agreed on that call, that Friday August 21, would be the last day for EPA water deliveries for agricultural use on the Navajo Nation.

EPA will work closely with the Navajo Nation in the coming weeks to ensure that a long-term monitoring plan for the San Juan River is implemented. In addition, EPA is positioned to provide technical assistance in flushing irrigation ditches on the Navajo Nation.

For more information on EPA's response to the Gold King Mine release please visit [www.epa.gov/goldkingmine](http://www.epa.gov/goldkingmine)

R221

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United States

